

"The swan must have been asleep or dead tired as it never noticed me until I had stepped out from the cover and walked 20 or 25 yards, when all at once it raised up and I killed it the first shot."

Mr. Potter's supposition that it was driven in by stress of weather is borne out by the fact that the swan's stomach was empty. The bird, for a swan, was not over fat, but sufficiently so to test the enthusiasm of any but an old timer.—FRANK S. DAGGETT, *Oak Park, Ill.*

**The Glossy Ibis in Central New York.**—On May 11 of the present year three Glossy Ibises (*Plegadis autumnalis*) were seen to alight in the Montezuma Marsh at the foot of Cayuga Lake, by Mr. Foster Parker, who shot and preserved two of them. About ten days later he saw three others, flying high over the marsh.

Although the bird is of extremely irregular occurrence in the Middle States, the fact that two separate companies were seen makes it probable that others may have come this way, and it is hoped that this notice will cause any other observers who have been so fortunate as to see the bird to put it on record.—LOUIS AGASSIZ FUERTES, *Ithaca, N. Y.*

**Another Specimen of Cory's Bittern.**—The University Museum, University of Michigan, has recently secured a specimen of Cory's Bittern (*Ardetta neoxena*), a fact which it seems advisable to record in view of the rareness of the species. This specimen was taken near Toledo, Ohio, on May 25, 1907, by Mr. W. P. Holt. It was found with a large colony of Least Bitterns (*Ardetta exilis*) in the swampy tract of country east of Toledo.

The specimen is an adult male, and is apparently typical of the species. The crown is black, the front of the neck chestnut, and the abdomen, tibia, and sides, smoky brown and chestnut, with a few white, and black feathers. The lesser wing-coverts are black, the median wing-coverts chestnut.

The University Museum is indebted to Mr. W. P. Holt (the collector) for this specimen.—ALEXANDER G. RUTHVEN, *University Museum, University of Michigan.*

**The Little Blue Heron in Philadelphia County, Pa., in Spring.**—The Little Blue Heron (*Florida carula*) is of extremely rare occurrence in the vicinity of Philadelphia during the spring, but it was the writer's good fortune to see one of these interesting and fast-disappearing birds on May 11, 1904. It was seen at Holmesburg, Philadelphia County, flying slowly down the Pennypack Creek, above tidewater, toward the Delaware River, up which it evidently had previously ascended. It was a male and flew past within less than thirty feet of me, flying about twenty feet above the water, and was well seen and its identity positively determined.

The Little Blue Heron annually ascends the Delaware River in summer after the nesting season in Virginia and other southern States, often as far as Trenton, but it is of extremely rare occurrence in the spring, as already indicated, so much so, indeed, that I have been unable to find any spring record of it in the Delaware Valley during recent years. The bird seen by me was evidently a straggler from its breeding ground in the South, to which it probably went afterwards, as it was not seen again.—RICHARD F. MILLER, *Philadelphia, Pa.*

**A Woodcock Nesting in St. Louis, Missouri.**—On April 16, 1907, a workman on the grounds of Washington University, St. Louis, told me he had found the nest of a "Penguin." He had also observed the bird at close range, having lifted it off the nest. I examined the nest and eggshells (for the birds had hatched and left the nest by that date) and found them to be those of a Woodcock. The workman also confessed that I was right when shown a mounted specimen. The remarkable feature of this nest was that it was within fifty yards of a large dormitory in process of construction and in a much frequented part of the grounds. The nest was placed in a large patch of dried weeds and grasses.

Dr. Otto Widmann informs me that he started a Woodcock from his back-yard in a thickly settled portion of the city at noon on May 17th. Woodcock have been reported also from at least one other locality within the city limits.—ROGER N. BALDWIN, *St. Louis, Mo.*

**The Stilt Sandpiper in Massachusetts.**—On August 9, 1906, while gunning in Chatham, Mass., I shot a Stilt Sandpiper (*Micropalama himantopus*). It was the only one we saw, and the local gunners said it was the first one that had been seen there for several years.—CHAUNCEY C. NASH, *Boston, Mass.*

**The White-rumped Sandpiper in Michigan.**—In 'The Auk,' XXIV, p. 140, Messrs. Swales and Taverner practically question my veracity regarding the White-rumped Sandpiper near Port Austin, Huron County, Michigan. Twice, during the last two years, I discussed this sandpiper with Mr. Taverner and on both occasions stated that I could see no reason why we should not meet with it here in Wayne County, as I found it of regular occurrence near Port Austin, and I predicted that some day we would secure specimens here. In view of the fact that this sandpiper was considered very rare in the State, it seems impossible that Mr. Taverner could have forgotten the above conversations, yet he says: "Mr. Wood's statement that this species is common in eastern Michigan we received with a good deal of surprise." Later, when my prediction came true, and both Mr. Taverner and myself took specimens, it seems to me that he might have accepted the fulfilment of my prognostication as a verification of my Port Austin observations. I mentioned the results of my Port Austin trips to Mr. Swales and clearly recollect speaking of this sandpiper.